

Bill #207, AN ACT CONCERNING FUNDING FOR A LYME DISEASE PREVENTION AND EDUCATION PROGRAM.

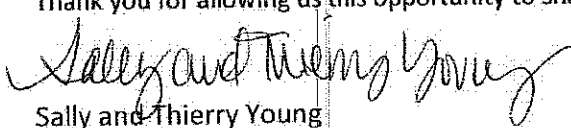
Dear Madam Chair and Members of the Committee,

I have multiple family members seriously affected by tick-borne illness who went undiagnosed for very long periods of time, some undiagnosed for decades which caused very serious illness. Undiagnosed Lyme and tick-borne disease can cause multi-systemic problems if not treated early enough.

There is a lack of educational prevention programs for Lyme and tick-borne illness. I have attended many educational programs through BLAST and received accurate and helpful information on how to prevent and further protect our family from Lyme and tick-borne disease. I have used the materials they offer to inform neighbors and friends of ways to protect themselves and their children from tick-borne illness. I am concerned that some people in the community are not aware of prevention measures. I often wondered why there weren't more prevention programs, such as BLAST in each town's health department. Citizens need support, information and prevention measures especially living in a Lyme endemic area such as Connecticut.

I urge you to support Bill 207, AN ACT CONCERNING FUNDING FOR A LYME DISEASE PREVENTION AND EDUCATION PROGRAM and help prevent others from contracting tick-borne illness through education and prevention programs such as BLAST. I have no doubt this will help the future of our communities and our precious children who are most vulnerable.

Thank you for allowing us this opportunity to share our opinion on this issue.


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